GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:159
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2016
Presentation of Railway Budget
Antony Shri Anto

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to withdraw the presentation of railway budget;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has received representation against this move; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 159 BY SHRI ANTO ANTONY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.11.2016 REGARDING PRESENTATION OF RAILWAY BUDGET

(a): The Government has decided to merge the Rail Budget with General Budget from budget year 2017-18.

(b): The merger of Railway Budget with General Budget is based on the recommendations of the Committee headed by Shri Bibek Debroy, Member, NITI Aayog and a separate paper on 'Dispensing with the Railway Budget' by Shri Bibek Debroy along with Shri Kishore Desai.
A Committee with representatives from Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Railways examined the issues involved and worked out the procedural details.
The salient features of merger are broadly given below:
i. Ministry of Railways will continue to function as a departmentally run commercial undertaking;
ii. A separate Statement of Budget Estimates and Demand for Grant will be created for Railways;
iii. A single Appropriation Bill, including the estimates of Railways, will be prepared and presented by Ministry of Finance to Parliament and all legislative work connected therewith will be handled by Ministry of Finance;
iv. Railways will get exemption from payment of dividend to General Revenues and its Capital-at-charge would stand wiped off;
v. Ministry of Finance will provide Gross Budgetary Support to Ministry of Railways towards meeting part of its capital expenditure;
vi. Railways may continue to raise resources from market through Extra-Budgetary Resources as at present to finance its capital expenditure, etc.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): Does not arise.

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